

Serial No. 10/824,363
Amdt. dated August 8, 2007
Reply to Office Action of May 4, 2007

Docket No. K-0634

Amendments to the Drawings

A Replacement Sheet has been submitted for Figure 4 to include a legend.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 10-28 are pending. In this paper, claims 1-6 and 8 have been amended and new claims 10-28 have been added to recite additional features of the embodiments disclosed in the specification. In addition, a Replacement Sheet has been submitted for Figure 4 to include a legend which overcomes the drawing objection.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 3 and 5 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, on grounds that the phrase “such as” is indefinite. This phrase has been deleted in favor of “including at least one of … or …” Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 3 and 5 are sufficient to overcome the § 112, second paragraph, rejection.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(a) for being anticipated by Figure 4 of the application drawings, hereinafter referred to as AAPA. This rejection is traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the counter electrode “has a plurality of holes, wherein the holes are aligned in at least one of a column direction or a row direction of the counter electrode.” (See, for example, Figures 5B or 7B for support). AAPA does not disclose these features.

The Figure 4 panel includes a counter electrode 103 having two strips formed lengthwise along an indium-tin-oxide electrode 102. (The two strips are identified by the gray areas 108A that are formed above them and which correspond to unhardened sealant.) Because counter

electrode 103 is formed to have two strips, it is clear that there is a space between the strips which forms a single aperture. This single aperture, or hole, runs lengthwise down the entire length of the underlying indium-tin-oxide strip 102. (See Paragraph [19] of the specification for an additional disclosure of these features).

However, the counter electrode of AAPA does not have “a plurality of holes, wherein the holes are aligned in at least one of a column direction or a row direction of the counter electrode” as recited in amended claim 1. Based on these differences, it is submitted that claim 1 and its dependent claims are allowable.

Dependent claim 2 recites that “the holes in the counter electrode have a shape which is one of or a combination of a polygon, a cross, or a circle.” AAPA does not disclose have a plurality of holes in its counter electrode. Accordingly, it is submitted that the features of claim 2 are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 4 recites that the panel of claim 1 includes an insulating layer and a sealant, where “the insulating layer extends to a predetermined area, including a crossing point between the counter electrode and the sealant, and to an area of the glass substrate, so as to be formed on a periphery of the organic electroluminous layer.” AAPA does not disclose these features.

Claim 6 has been amended to recite that “the holes in the counter strip are aligned in at least one of a column direction or a row direction of the counter electrode.” AAPA does not disclose these features. Accordingly, it is submitted that claim 6 and its dependent claims are allowable.

New claims 10-28 have been added to the application.

Claim 10 recites that “the indium-tin-oxide strip and the cathode strip overlap to form one or more pixel areas, and wherein the counter electrode includes multiple holes in each pixel area.” (See, for example, Figures 5D-5F for support). These features are not disclosed by AAPA, i.e., AAPA discloses forming a single aperture between two counter electrode strips down the length of an underlying indium-tin-oxide electrode. However, AAPA does not disclose or suggest a counter electrode having multiple holes per pixel as recited in claim 10.

Claim 11 recites that “the counter electrode includes multiple holes aligned in the column direction and row direction in each pixel area.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 12 recites that “the indium-tin-oxide strip and the cathode strip overlap to form one or more pixel areas, and wherein the counter electrode includes multiple holes in each pixel area.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 13 recites that “the counter electrode includes multiple holes aligned in the column direction and row direction in each pixel area.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 14 recites “a counter electrode having a plurality of holes” and “the holes of the counter electrode are aligned in at least one of a first direction or a second direction.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 15 recites that the holes of the counter electrode are aligned in the first direction and the second direction. These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 16 recites that the first direction is substantially perpendicular to the second direction. These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 17 recites that the first electrode layer is an anode layer and the second electrode layer is a cathode layer. These features are not disclosed by AAPA when taken as a whole with the features of base claim 14.

Claim 18 recites that “the holes in the counter electrode have a shape which is one of or a combination of a polygon, a cross, or a circle.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 19 recites that “the counter strip has a width smaller than that of the first electrode layer.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA when taken as a whole with the features in base claim 14.

Claim 20 recites that “the first electrode layer and second electrode layer overlap to form one or more pixel areas, and wherein the counter electrode includes multiple holes in each pixel area.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claim 21 recites that “the counter electrode includes multiple holes aligned in the first direction and second direction in each pixel area.” These features are not disclosed by AAPA.

Claims 22-28 recite a method having features analogous to many of those recited in claims 14-21. Accordingly, it is submitted that these claims are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

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To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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